lower interests, and we find that, as we ascend, our view widens with the wide horizon spreading out around us; that terrestrial objects dwindle into greater and greater insignificance—the property once coveted so earnestly shrinking till it is scarcely discernible, and the very citadels of earth, its proud palaces and populous cities, and these isles in which we live, with their vaunted trade and arts and commerce, and ships which visit every shore of the ocean, diminishing till they appear " a very little thing •" and that as we draw near to Him who dwelleth in light, the brightest earthly glory is stript of its lustre and appears dim, just as every other object appears dark after we have gazed on the splendour of the noon-day sun. Being dazzled with the light, we turn for relief to the earth now far beneath us. We venture to affirm that from this point of view our judgment would be the same with that of God—" God looked down from heaven upon the children of men to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God. Every one of them is gone back, they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

From such a point of view we shall be satisfied that all men are on much the same level. We divide mankind into the virtuous and the vicious, the good and the bad. And it is certain that there are differences between one man and another, and between one class of men and another, in respect of their moral condition. Still, if we take a sufficiently high standard, we shall see that, though there are differences, there are far more important points of resemblance. When we ascend a very high mountain, and take a view of the ground lying below us, we find the lower hills, which may have appeared of considerable magnitude when looked at from beneath, becoming more and more insignificant, till at length the whole

landscape of little hills and valleys stretches out before us as a level plain; and did we but look upon mankind and human nature from the height of God's law, we should be less impressed with the difference between this man and that man, and see more clearly how much they are, after all, on the same level. "There is no difference, for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Man's favourable estimate of his character arises from his looking at himself from a wrong position—from his taking a